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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/769,169	01/24/2001	William B. Busa	99,826-A	5388
7	590 03/17/2003			
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff			EXAMINER	
32nd Floor 300 S. Wacker Srive			ZEMAN, MARY K	
Chicago, IL 6	0606		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1631	
			DATE MAILED: 03/17/2003	
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			/	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-d	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	09/769,169	BUSA, WILLIAM B.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Mary K Zeman	1631				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day rill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on						
· <u> </u>	s action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.	Wir Horri Concideration.					
6) Claim(s) is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.						
Application Papers	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,					
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner	r.					
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	e drawing(s) be held in abeyance. S	ee 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on	is: a)□ approved b)□ disappro	oved by the Examiner.				
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.						
12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120						
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).						
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents	2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).						
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 						
15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti	• •					
Attachment(s)						
 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 	5) Notice of Informal	y (PTO-413) Paper No(s) Patent Application (PTO-152)				
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Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-15, drawn to computer-implemented methods for creating automated inferences, classified in class 707, subclass 1.
- II. Claims 16-20, drawn to methods of checking inferences, classified in class 707, subclass 2.
- III. Claims 21-23, drawn to a computer system comprising various software and data information, classified in class 707, subclass 100.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions III and I/II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the computer system can be used to generate inferences for data other than indexed literature databases, and the methods can be performed with other software.

Inventions I and II are separate and distinct as they are drawn to differing methods having differing steps and differing goals. Each uses differing information in differing ways to achieve differing results. As such, the inventions are distinct, and would pose an undue burden upon the examiner if not restricted.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary K Zeman whose telephone number is (703) 305-7133.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Woodward, can be reached at (703) 308-4028.

Official fax numbers for this Art Unit are: (703) 308-4242, (703) 872-9306. An *unofficial* fax number, direct to the Examiner is (703) 746 5279. Please call prior to use of this number.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC1600 Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

mkz 3/14/03

> MARY K. ZEMAN Domandy e vandned

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